



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, May 25, 2007 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 77.6 million pounds during April. This was up 10 percent from one year ago but down 8 percent from last month. For April, pork production was up from one year ago, while sheep and lamb production was down, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 360,800 head during April compared to 324,900 head the year before. Average live weight was 257 pounds, which was down 6 pounds from April 2006.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 700 head during April compared to 900 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 137 pounds, which was up 11 pounds from April 2006.

Commercial slaughter data for cattle are not published.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2007/LiveSlau-05-25-2007.pdf>